


PATENT

MS164185.01/MSFTP215US

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to 571-273-8300 on the date shown below to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 9-20-05  
Himanshu S. Amin

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): Eric J. Horvitz, *et al.*

Examiner: Thomas E. Shortledge

Serial No: 09/896,187

Art Unit: 2654

Filing Date: June 29, 2001

Title: SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR INFERRING INFORMATIONAL GOALS AND  
PREFERRED LEVEL OF DETAIL OF ANSWERS

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 8, 2005**

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Dear Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully  
requested in view of the comments below.